

STATE OF FLORIDA

DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY AFFAIRS

"Dedicated to making Florida a better place to call home"

JEB BUSH
Governor

THADDEUS L. COHEN, AIA
Secretary

June 29, 2004

RE: Legislative Action Affecting Due Date of Water Supply Plans

Dear Local Planning Official:

During the 2004 session, the Florida Legislature enacted House Bill 293 changing the due date for the 10-year water supply work plan. The bill was signed into law by Governor Bush on June 23, 2004. The legislation changes the due date for the 10-year water supply work plan from January 1, 2005, to December 1, 2006.

This is a change to legislation passed in 2002 in which the Legislature amended Section 163.3177(6)(c), Florida Statutes, to require local governments having water supply responsibilities amend their infrastructure element to adopt a water supply work plan. The work plan must cover at least a 10-year planning period and must reflect consideration of the regional water supply plan. The work plan was due January 1, 2005, or the evaluation and appraisal report (EAR) due date, whichever came first. This session, the Legislature extended the due date to December 1, 2006, and eliminated the language regarding the EAR due date. The reason for postponing the due date was so that local government work plans will reflect the most current update of the regional water supply work plans, which are due to be revised in 2005. In addition, the legislation requires that once the work plans have been adopted they be updated every five years within 12 months of the update to the regional water supply plans. Also, amendments to incorporate the work plans are now exempt from the twice per year limitation on amendments to the comprehensive plan. An excerpt from the legislation is attached. The entire bill can be viewed at http://www.flsenate.gov/data/session/2004/House/bills/billtext/pdf/h0293er.pdf.

Some local governments have already begun preparation of the work plan and are now considering whether to continue or wait. We are advising that local governments delay adopting the work plan until after the regional water supply plans have been updated. If you choose not to delay, then the work plans will still need to be updated as necessary within 12 months of the adoption of the revised regional water supply plans. Local governments who have already adopted the work plan, or who have transmitted to the Department, will be contacted by the Growth Management Administrator responsible for that area.

If you have questions, please call Mike McDaniel at 850-922-1806 (email: mike.mcdaniel@dca.state.fl.us) or Walker Banning at 850-922-1785 (email: walker.banning@dca.state.fl.us).

Sincerely,

Valerie J. Hubbard, AICP Director, Division of Community Planning